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BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

THE SACRAMENT

OF

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EXPLAIN'D:

OR THE

Things to be KNOWN and DONE, to make a Worthy Communicant.

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OR, AN

EXHORTATION

TO

MORNING and EVENING

PRAYER

IN

FAMILIES:

WITH TWO

FORMS of PRAYER,

Suited to those two Seasons, and also fitted for the Use of one Person in Private.

To which are now added,

Two shorter FORMS to be used by *Children* and *Servants*, when they cannot conveniently be present at the FAMILY PRAYERS.

First drawn up for the Use of the inhabitants of the Parish of *Lambeth*, and now Revised and Enlarged,

By the Right Reverend Father in GOD,

EDMUND GIBSON, D.D.

Late Lord Bishop of LONDON.

Reprinted from the EIGHTEENTH EDITION.

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TO THE

INHABITANTS

Of the PARISH of

LAMBETH.

MY BRETHREN,

HAVING drawn up for your Use such a Form of Morning *and* Evening Prayer, *as I conceive to be proper in your Families, I now put it into your Hands; together with an earnest Exhortation to the Practice of Family-Devotion. It hath pleased the Providence of GOD to commit to me*

the Care *of your Souls; and as I am obliged, in a peculiar Manner, to desire and endeavour the* Salvation *of them, so I know nothing that will forward it more, than the Exercise of daily Devotion in your Families.*

The many Benefits that will accrue to you and your Families from this Godly Practice, are plainly set down in the following Exhortation; which I beseech you to read and consider seriously. And when you have read it, and seen the excellent Ends and Uses of Family-Devotion; consider farther, how ill it becomes any Christian to suffer himself and his Family to live in the daily Neglect *of a Duty, the daily* Practice *of which would so greatly conduce to the saving of their Souls.*

I consider, that many of the Families under my Care, are such as live by the Labour of their Hands, and have not much

Time

Time to spare; and therefore I took Care to comprehend the proper Matter of both the Prayers in as short a Compass as might be; so short, that the longer of them may be decently read to a Family, in little more than half a quarter *of an Hour. And they must be very indifferent Christians, who can grudge God and their Souls so small a Portion of their Time; not considering, how plentifully it would be made up by the Comfort and Benefit of that Blessing which our Prayers secure to us. Where Men are not* inclin'd *to Exercises of this Nature, it is easy to find Pretences and Excuses to avoid them; but if there be first a* willing Mind, *Time and Opportunity will seldom be wanting; and to bring Men to a Willing Mind, it should be remember'd, that such Excuses will only serve them in this World.*

This Exercise of Morning and Evening

Prayer,

Prayer, where Families have lived in the Neglect of it, may appear somewhat strange at the Beginning, as all Things do that are new and unusual. But if Parents and Masters would settle *their Hours of Prayer, and oblige as many of the Family to be present as conveniently may; it would in a little Time appear as strange to* omit *them; and the Service of GOD would be reckoned, as in all Christian Families it ought, a necessary Part of every Day's Business.*

I am aware, that extraordinary Occasions will sometimes happen, which may make it necessary to omit Morning or Evening Prayer in the Family, *when perhaps some one Member of that Family may be at Leisure for it. I am also afraid, that there will be some Masters and Fathers so void of all Religion, as to take no Care of settling this Godly Prac-*

tice

tice in their Families; nay, some may be so very wicked, as even to hinder and forbid it; when yet a Wife, or a Child, or a Servant, may be religiously inclin'd, and desirous to perform their Duty in private. Upon which Considerations, I have fitted these two Family Prayers for the Use of one single Person, *and to that End have printed them apart; foreseeing, that if the many Changes which are necessary to fit publick Prayers for private Use, were to be made by particular Persons in the Act of Praying, it would be a great Disturbance to their Attention and Devotion.*

I am also aware, that Children and Servants will sometimes be unavoidably hindered from attending the Family Hours *of Prayer; and therefore that they may not remain Strangers to Devotion, and that the Practice of Family Prayer may be provided for in every Part, I have* thought it

proper

proper to add two shorter Forms, which are suited to the respective Conditions of Children *and* Servants; *who, if they cannot* ordinarily *be present at the Prayers of the Family, nor be* always *at Leisure to use the larger Forms in Private, should be often admonished by Parents and Masters, that they fail not at least to use the shorter Forms constantly before they lie down to Rest, and as soon as they rise again.*

As it may be necessary, on some extraordinary Occasions, to omit Prayers in the Family; so at other Times, and especially on the Lord's Day, *there will be more Leisure than the bare Performance of this Office requires. Which Leisure ought to be employed in reading to the Family some plain and easy Portions of Holy Scripture, or other Books of Piety and Religion, and in* Catechising *such of the Children and Servants who need it.*

Altho'

Altho' a Master or Mistress shall (as becomes their Character and Station) take to themselves the Office of reading Prayers to the rest, yet it may not be amiss to train up some other of the Family to be able to perform it decently, that in Case of their Indisposition, or unavoidable Absence, the Duty may not be omitted, and by Degrees forgotten.

You will observe, that each of the two Prayers for Morning and Evening, is divided into several Branches; *each Branch being a shorter Prayer, in the Manner of a* Collect, *and containing one distinct Head of the several Matters, for which a Christian is bound to pray. And I chose this Method, because, in my Opinion, it keeps the Thoughts more* distinct, *than they can well be kept in one long continued Prayer; and if they happen to wander, the solemn Conclusion of one Prayer, with the En-*

trance

trance upon another, and the Part which every one present has in saying Amen *to each; is a good Means to awaken the Attention, and to recall the Thoughts to their proper Work.*

May the good Spirit of GOD stir up every Family under my Charge to this Practice of Daily Devotion, and continually aid and assist you in it; that thereby obtaining daily Supplies of Grace, and always living in his Fear and Obedience, you may give me Cause to bless Him for making me in any Measure the Instrument of your spiritual Good in this World, and may secure to yourselves an Eternity of Happiness in the next. Which is, and always shall be, the earnest Prayer of

Your Affectionate

Brother and Pastor,

EDMUND GIBSON.

New-year's-day,
1705.

AN

EXHORTATION

TO

FAMILY PRAYER.

PRAYER is a Service that we owe to Almighty God, as he is our Creator and Preserver, and we his Creatures, who depend upon him for the Comforts and Necessaries of Body and Soul. Which Service is not only most reasonable in itself, as it is an humble Acknowledgment of God's Dominion and Sovereignty over us; but is in many Places of Scripture expressly enjoin'd by Christ and his Apostles, as a necessary Condition

tion and a sure Means of having our Wants supplied. Our Saviour (*Matt.* vii. 7.) makes our Asking the only Means of our Receiving; *Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find.* And St. *James* expressly saith, (*James*, iv. 2) That *we have not, because we ask not;* And St. *Paul's* Precept is, (*Phil.* iv. 6.) That *in every thing by Prayer and Supplication, with Thanksgiving, we let our Requests be made known unto GOD.*

Now the Reason why God requires us to pray to him for his Blessing and Assistance, is not, that he wants to be informed what our Necessities are; for he understands them much better than we ourselves, and as our Saviour speaks (*Matt.* vi. 8.) *knoweth what Things we have need of before we ask him.* But the Design of making Prayer a Religious Ordinance, and of obliging Christians to *Ask* that they may *Receive*, is, to preserve upon their Minds a constant Sense of their Dependance upon God, and of their

their manifold Obligations to him; that so these daily Acknowledgments of the Divine Power and Goodness, may keep up in Creatures a due Fear and Love of their Creator, and an habitual Reverence and Obedience to him and his Laws.

FROM hence appears the Reasonableness and Necessity of FREQUENT PRAYER; both in regard to the daily Wants of our Souls and Bodies, which GOD has no where promised to supply but upon our earnest Prayer to him; and also because the Cares and Pleasures of this World are very apt to make us forget the Things of the next Life, unless an heavenly Temper, and a Sense of GOD's Being and Goodness, be preserved upon our Souls by the Exercise of frequent Prayer, which is a conversing with GOD, and the nearest Communication we can have with him, as long as we continue in this World.

THE Apostle commands us (1 *Thess.* v. 17.) *to pray without* Ceasing; and

(Col.

(*Col.* iv. 2.) *to continue in Prayer and watch in the same;* and (*Col.* iv. 12.) he speaks of *labouring fervently in Prayer:* From all which we learn, that this Service must be perform'd by Christians, frequently, and earnestly. We read in Scripture (*Acts* iii. 1.) of the *Hours of Prayer;* and we find particularly (*Psal.* lv. 17. *Dan.* vi. 10.) that it was the Practice of *David* and *Daniel*, two eminently good and holy Men, to pray to God *three Times in a Day.*

As to the PUBLICK Service of the Church, and the Times of attending that, every Christian is to be govern'd by the Orders and Customs of the Place and Nation in which he lives, and is bound in Duty to attend it, and to join with his Fellow-Christians in Praying for their common Necessities, as oft as Health and Business will give him Leave, and more especially on the *Lord's-day*, which is set apart for that End.

But as to that which I am now speaking

speaking of, namely PRIVATE Prayer, whether of single Persons or Families: Although there is no express and positive Precept, how many Times in a Day it shall be perform'd; yet I think no Person or Family can be accounted Religious, who does not perform this duty of Praying to God at least in the MORNING and EVENING. A true Spirit of Piety and Devotion will move private Christians, who have Time and Leisure, to retire to Prayer at other Hours also; especially when they find extraordinary Occasions for the Comfort and Assistance of God. But I insist upon Prayer in the *Morning* and *Evening*, as that which is not only reasonable in itself, but may also be made to suit the Condition and Business of most Persons and Families, if they be but Religiously dispos'd, and have Hearts willing and desirous to pray to God.

In the MORNING, when they arise from Rest, and before they enter upon their

their daily Business, what can become Christians more, than to fall down before GOD, to thank and praise him for the Preservation of the past Night, and and to beg his Blessing upon the Business of the following Day, and his Protection to Body and Soul, amidst the Dangers and Temptations of a wicked World? Again, in the EVENING, after they return from their worldly Business and Conversation, and before they go to Rest, can any thing be more proper for Devout and Serious Christians, than humbly to acknowledge the Goodness of GOD, and to make Confession of their own Sins and Unworthiness; and then, upon their sincere Repentance, and humble Trust in his Mercy, to implore the Continuance of his Favour and Protection, especially the following Night?

They who can live in the daily Neglect of so reasonable a Service, and can lie down and rise again without thinking of

of God, and go about the Business of their Lives, without imploring his Direction and Blessing; such Persons can have very little Religion, but may rather be said to live *without GOD in the World.* By the Omission of this Part of their Duty, it comes to pass, that they seldom have it in their Minds, either that there is such a Being as God, or that they live under his Providence, or that He has given them Laws to walk by, and will require an Account in another World how they have observ'd them. And as no Person, who has not these and the like Thoughts frequently upon his Mind, can be said to think or live like a Christian; so such Thoughts can be very little upon the Mind of any Person, who lives in an habitual Neglect of this Duty of Morning and Evening Prayer. For if Men think not of these Things at the most seasonable Times for it, *before* they begin their Work, and *after* they have ended it; it is not likely that they will

will fall into such Thoughts in the *midst* of their Business or Pleasures.

It is to be fear'd, that there are too many Persons and Families, who are sunk into this unthinking State, and this habitual Forgetfulness of Almighty God: Which being a Condition so dangerous to their Souls, we, who have the Care of Souls, are bound to admonish them of their Danger, and to exhort them earnestly to the proper and effectual Remedy; which is, this daily addressing themselves to God, and as it were, conversing with him in Prayer. The Time it will take up, is very small; but the Benefit which it will bring, is exceeding great; no less than the entitling ourselves to the constant Assistance and Protection of God, and the keeping us in a daily Preparation for Heaven. And surely no Person who calls himself a Christian, and doth in any degree desire to live as becomes the Gospel of Christ, can be unwilling to enter

enter upon a Practice, which will be the Means of gaining such valuable Benefits to Body and Soul, especially, when that which will procure these Benefits, is a Work so easy and reasonable, as the lifting up our Hearts to God for so short a Space, *before* and *after* the Business of this World.

They have seen, by what has been hitherto said of Family Devotion, that this is a very *Reasonable* and *Easy* Duty; and that the daily Neglect of it is the ready Way to lose all Sense of God and Religion. The Considerations which I shall add, as a farther Inducement to the daily Performance of it, will show them that it is not only a sure Preservative against that *Forgetfulness* of Almighty God, but also an excellent Help towards their Growth and Improvement in Grace and Goodness.

To make them truly sensible of this, let them consider the following Heads.

I. THE great Weakness and Infirmity of Body and Soul, and the manifold Dangers with which both are encompassed: That the Body is perpetually liable to Diseases within, and Accidents without; and the Soul always beset with the Temptations of the World, the Flesh, and the Devil. Now our only Security against these Dangers, is GOD's Protection to defend the Body, and his assisting Grace to preserve the Soul: And as there is no other Way to obtain his Protection and Assistance against these Dangers but our Prayers; so the Dangers being daily, our Prayers must be daily too.

AND the only sure Way to keep up daily Devotion is, for every Family to fix and appoint for that End the two most convenient Parts of the Day, namely, Morning and Evening. For except the Times of doing it be fix'd and certain, the Duty will be either wholly neglected and forgotten, or, at best, there will be many Pretences to omit it. Whereas, when the

Times

Times of Prayer are settled in a Family, they are reckoned beforehand, and all other business is laid and contrived accordingly; so that by a little Practice, Morning and Evening Prayer is accounted a necessary Part of the Business of the Day; and no more to be omitted or forgotten than the Provision for Food, Raiment, and other Conveniences of Life. The Members of any Family, who have been thus accustomed to daily Prayer, as the only sure Means of obtaining God's daily Blessing, will be afraid to lie down at Night, or go abroad in the Morning, without first having made themselves sure of his Protection and Assistance, by joining with their Brethren in Prayer; or, where that cannot be conveniently done, by their own private Devotions; or by both, where there is Leisure and Opportunity for both.

II. It is a further Encouragement to the beginning and carrying on this Godly Practice

Practice in Families, that our Saviour CHRIST has in an especial Manner promised his Presence with them. For, considering the Circumstances of that Promise (in the xviii*th* of St. *Matt.* verses 19, 20.) it may be more strictly and immediately applied to Family Prayers: *I say unto you, that if* two *of you shall agree on Earth, as touching any Thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in Heaven. For where* two *or* three *are gathered together in my Name, there am I in the Midst of them.* Without doubt, CHRIST is ready to assist and answer the devout Prayers of good Men, in what Place, or at what Time soever they are made; but the joint Prayers of a Family must be yet more acceptable and more powerful, as they are sent up with an Unity of Hearts and Souls; which is so becoming among Christians, and especially among Brethren and Relations, and is withal so pleasing in the Sight of God.

III. THE

III. THE Practice of daily Prayer settles in Families a Face and Spirit of Religion; so as no Member thereof can wholly forget God and another World, while they are every Day reminded of both. By this, Children are trained from their Infancy to an Use and Habit of Devotion; and Servants are sure of due Time and Opportunity to serve GOD every Day. For Fathers and Mothers, Masters and Mistresses, are enjoined by GOD to take care of the Souls, as well as the Bodies of their Children and Servants; and as it is their Duty, so may it be their great Comfort, to afford them this daily Means of becoming and continuing the Servants and Children of GOD. Hereby they plant in their Hearts a true Sense of Piety and Devotion; and this prepares and disposes them, when themselves come to be Parents and Governors, to train up their Children and Servants to the same Method of daily Devotion. And so, they who settle and

keep

keep up in their Families this Practice of Morning and Evening Prayer, take the true and effectual Way, both to preserve in their own Houses a Spirit of Piety and Religion, and also to convey that religious Spirit to future Generations.

IV. DAILY Prayer in a Family, is a great Check and Restraint upon any Member of it, who may be inclin'd to Sin and Vice. It makes him remember, whether he will or no, that there is a GOD, and another World, and that they who would be happy hereafter, must heartily use their own Endeavours, and beg the Assistance of Almighty GOD, that they may live sober and religiously here. This is the great End and Design of all our Prayers; and though Persons who are viciously inclin'd, may not inwardly join with their Brethren in Prayer; yet if they be but present, they must often consider, that what the rest are doing, is in order to a Life after this; and

and that they, as well as their Brethren, have Souls to take care of: and therefore, that it cannot be safe for them to live in Sins, from which they hear their Fellow Christians daily beseeching God to deliver them. Occasional Admonitions or Exhortations to this Purpose, may be easily forgotten and neglected by wicked Men; but when the Thoughts of another World are thus daily renewed upon their Minds, it must be a daily Check to their wicked Courses: And I doubt not, but very many Persons of Evil and Debauch'd Inclinations, have not only been much reform'd, but have become virtuous and religious, by falling Providentially into such regular Families, as have kept up this most edifying and godly Exercise of daily Prayer.

V. As the Practice of daily Prayer in Families, is the best Way to restrain and reform the bad Members of it; so is it an excellent Means to make such of them

as are well disposed to persevere in their good Disposition, and to grow daily in Grace, and in Purity of Heart and Affection, and to fit them more and more for the spiritual Exercises of the next Life. The Heart of Man is by Nature Carnal and Earthly, set upon the Business of this World, and not easily brought to take Delight in the Things of the next. The Work therefore which God hath appointed Christians in this World, is to purify their Hearts, and to bring them to a Love of Heavenly Things. And for the effecting of this, he hath enjoin'd the Exercise of several Means, as Reading, Meditation, and the like; but of those Means, none is more effectual for that End, than this of daily Prayer. It is the only Way we have of prevailing with God to send his Holy Spirit into our Hearts; and the daily Practice and Use of lifting up our Hearts to God in Prayer, adds Wings to the Soul, and makes it move towards Heaven every

Day

Day more naturally and easily, and brings it to a nearer Acquaintance with God, and a better Taste and Relish of that spiritual Life, which every one that desires Heaven must desire, and be prepared to live hereafter. To which I may add, that daily Prayer, as it contains in it a solemn Confession of Sins, gives good Christians an Opportunity, or rather puts them under a Necessity of examining their Lives Day by Day, and of repenting immediately of the Sins they commit; and by this daily Confession and Repentance, they are kept in a right Knowledge of their Spiritual Estate, and have their Accounts in Readiness whenever God shall please to call for them. Thus, all Families, who have settled and keep up this daily Correspondence with God in Prayer, do truly *walk with* God, and are constantly advancing towards Heaven in the Way that he hath appointed; and are making themselves

every

every Day more fit for his immediate Presence there.

VI. WHERE daily Prayer is practised in any Family, the Members of it are *accustom'd* to Devotion, and by their appearing so frequently before GOD in a small Congregation, can much more readily frame their Hearts to due Attention and Zeal, when they come to appear before him in a larger, I mean, at the Publick Service of the Church; where Christians meet, with mutual Unity of Hearts, to send up their joint Prayers to GOD for the common Necessities of one another. For it is the same Spirit of Devotion, that makes us fit both for Publick and Private Prayer; and unless that Spirit be kept up by daily Exercise, it will of Course decay and languish; and when Christians come to Church, after a Disuse of Devotion for some Days together, they are in a manner Strangers to the

the Work they are going about, and their Hearts having been employ'd only about Earthly Things, are not readily and easily raised up to Heaven. Which is the true Cause of that Coldness, Indifference, and Wandering of Thoughts and Eyes, that is so common in the Publick Worship of God: And I doubt it is generally true, that they who use no Devotion at Home, bring very little to the Church. But now the Use and Practice of daily Prayer at Home, trains up Christians to a Spirit and Habit of Devotion, and keeps their Minds bent towards God and Heavenly Things; which by frequent Exercise being made familiar to their Thoughts, their Hearts and Affections are easily fram'd and compos'd to such Attention, Devotion and Zeal, as becomes the House of God; and they are also armed against the Temptations to Wandering, and those Disturbances to Devotion which frequently happen in great and publick Congregations.

The

The Sum of this Exhortation to Family Prayer is thus. Prayer to Almighty God is an Ordinance which he has appointed, as the Condition of having our Wants supply'd, and as one special Means of keeping up in our Hearts a constant Sense of his Majesty and Goodness, and thereby a due Fear, and Love, and Reverence of his Name. Our Wants are daily, and the Temptations which draw our Hearts from God to the Things of this World, are also daily; and upon both these Accounts our Prayers ought also to be daily. This hath been the Practice of Good and Religious men in all Ages; and they scarce deserve the Name of Christians, who can lie down to Rest, without praying for the Protection of God; and rise again, without thanking him for that Protection, and begging his Blessing upon themselves and their Undertakings the following Day. The only Way to have this surely and effectually done by Christians, is to settle the Prac-

tice

tice of Morning and Evening Prayer in their Families; the Members of which, at least the greatest Part of them, are suppos'd ordinarily to be together at those two Seasons. When the Times of Prayer are thus settled, it will be accounted Part of the Business of the Day; and as the Neglect of it occasions an habitual Forgetfulness of God and the Things of another Life, so the daily Practice of it keeps up in Families a Face and Spirit of Religion, and is the best Means that Fathers and Mothers, Masters and Mistresses can use, to preserve in themselves, their Children, and Servants, such a Religious and Heavenly Frame of Soul, as becomes a Society of Christians. It brings down upon Families the Blessing of God, and Supplies of Grace to assist and direct those Members who heartily join with their Brethren in daily Prayer for it. And if there be any Members of a Family who are wicked, or ill-disposed, this Practice is the Way

to

to reclaim them and make them good, by bringing to their Minds every Day the Thoughts of God and another World, and keeping their Consciences awake, which would otherwise be lull'd asleep in Sin and Security. As to those of a Family who are good, and desirous to grow every Day better, the Practice of daily Prayer makes them fix'd and stedfast in their religious Dispositions, and keeps their Souls bent towards Heaven and Heavenly Things, and raises them more and more to such a Spirit of Devotion, as both prepares them, while they live, to be fervent and zealous amongst the Faithful in the Publick Service of God's Church; and when they come to die, fit them for spiritual Joys and Exercises among the Blessed in Heaven.

May all they, for whose Use this Exhortation to Family Prayer is designed, read it seriously, and lay it to Heart as a Matter that nearly concerns

every

every Christian; and may as many of them as have not already settled this Godly Practice in their Families, resolve that they will no longer neglect a Duty, which will so much forward their own Salvation, and is such an excellent Means of training up their Children and Servants to Piety and Religion.

MORNING

MORNING PRAYER:

To be used in the Families of the Parish of *LAMBETH.*

The Master or Mistress having called together as many of the Family as can conveniently be present; let one of them, or any other whom they shall think most proper, say as follows; all kneeling.

Acknowledgment of GOD'S mercy and Preservation, especially the Night past.

ALMIGHTY and Ever-lasting GOD, in whom we live and move, and have

have our Being, and whose Mercy is over all thy Works; We thy needy Creatures, in a thankful Sense of thy good Providence over us, render thee our humblest praises for thy Preservation of us from the Beginning of our Lives to this Day. Blessed be thy Holy Name for the continual Protection of thy Hand, by which we have been defended amidst the Changes and Chances of this mortal Life, and kept and delivered from innumerable Dangers, and particularly from the Terrors and evil Accidents of the past Night. To thy watchful Providence we wholly owe it,

 [*that

* When Disturbances of any Kind befall a Family, instead of this, say, [*that notwithstanding our Fears, and Dangers, we are brought in Safety to the Beginning of this Day.*]

[*that no Disturbance hath come nigh us or our Dwelling, but that we have enjoy'd quiet and refreshing Sleep, and are brought in Safety to the Beginning of this Day.] For these and all thy other Mercies, our Souls do bless and magnify thy Glorious Name; humbly beseeching Thee to accept this our Morning Sacrifice of Praise and Thanksgiving, for his Sake, who lay down in the Grave, and rose again for us, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

AND

Dedication of Soul and Body to God's Service, with a Resolution to be growing daily in Goodness.

AND since it is of thy mercy, O Gracious Father, that another Day is added to our Lives; we here dedicate both our Souls and Bodies to Thee and thy Service, to promote thy Glory and our own Salvation, in a sober, righteous, and godly Life. We renounce the Devil and all his Works, the Vanities of this wicked World, and all the sinful Lusts of the Flesh; desiring Nothing so much as to serve Thee faithfully all the Days of our Life. And we sincerely resolve so to improve the Time which thou shalt be pleased to grant us in this

World,

World, that we may every Day become better Christians, and persevere in Holiness and Righteousness unto the End. In which Resolutions do thou, O merciful God, confirm and strengthen us; and especially this Day keep it stedfastly in the Purpose of our Hearts to perform them, that as we grow in Age, we may grow in Grace, and in the Knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For Grace to enable us to perform that Resolution.

BUT, Lord, Thou knowest the Weakness and Corruption of our Nature, and the manifold Temptations that we daily

daily meet with; We therefore humbly beseech Thee to have Compassion upon our Infirmities, and to give us the constant Assistance of thy Holy Spirit; that we may be effectually restrained from Sin, and excited to our Duty. And when thou seest us giving way to any Temptation, suffer us not to be tempted above that we are able, but stretch out thy helping Hand to save and deliver us. Imprint upon our Hearts such a Dread of thy Judgments, and such a grateful Sense of thy goodness to us, as may make us both afraid and ashamed to offend Thee; and, above all, keep up in our

Minds

Minds a lively Remembrance of that great Day, in which we must give a strict Account of our Thoughts, Words, and Actions, and, according to the Works done in the Body, be eternally rewarded or punished by Him, whom thou hast appointed Judge of Quick and Dead, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Grace to guide and keep us the following Day.

IN particular, that we may then be able to give Account of this Day; grant us Grace to have Thee and thy Laws before our Eyes, that we may walk in it according to thy Will, with Watchfulness and Circumspection.

Circumspection. Keep us sober and temperate in our Meats and Drinks, and diligent in the several Callings and Professions which thy Providence hath appointed us. Grant us Patience under any Affliction Thou shalt see fit to lay upon us, and Minds always contented with our present Condition. Give us Grace to be just and upright in all our Dealings, quiet and peaceable among our Neighbours, full of Compassion towards the Needy and Afflicted, and ever ready to do Good to all Men, according to the Abilities and Opportunities which thou shalt give us: That so walking faithfully before

Thee

Thee all our Days, and being found watching whenever our appointed Time shall come, we may, from a Life of Righteousness, be translated to a Life of Glory, through the Merits and Mediation of Jesus Christ our only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

*AND

For God's Blessing upon the Business of the Day.

* AND now we are entring upon the Business of the several Stations wherein thy Providence hath placed us, we humbly beg thy Blessing this Day upon our honest Designs and Undertakings. Direct us in all our Ways, and prosper the Works of our Hands:] And as we desire to walk in a constant Sense of thy All-seeing Providence; so let

* *On Sunday Morning, instead of this, say,* And now we are going to the Place of thy publick Worship, we beseech Thee let thy Holy Spirit accompany us, and make us Devout, Serious, and Attentive. Raise our minds from the Thoughts of this World, to the Consideration of the next, that we may join fervently in the

the

Prayers and Praises of thy Church, and listen to our Duty with honest Hearts, in order to practise it. And give us Grace to dedicate this Day, as Thou hast appointed us, to thy Service, and the Care of our Souls. Direct us in all our Ways, and guide our Feet into thy Paths.

the same good Providence watch over us, and preserve our Going-out, and our Coming-in. Defend us from all Dangers and Adversities, and be graciously pleas'd to take us, and all Things belonging to us, into thy Fatherly Care and Protection. These Things, O Lord, and whatever else Thou shalt see necessary and convenient either for our Souls, our Bodies, or Estates, we humbly beg of Thee, for the sake of thy Son

Jesus

Jesus Christ, in whose Name and Words we conclude our imperfect Prayers.

Our Father which art in Heaven; Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done, in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread; and forgive us our Trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER:

To be used in the Families of the Parish of *LAMBETH.*

The Family being together, a little before Bed-time, let the Master or Mistress, or any other whom they shall think most proper, say as follows; all kneeling.

Confession of Sins, with a Prayer for Contrition and Pardon.

MOST Gracious and Merciful God, who art of purer Eyes than to behold Iniquity, and hast promised Mercy

Mercy and Forgiveness to all them who confess and forsake their Sins; We come before Thee in an humble Sense of our own Unworthiness, acknowledging our manifold Transgressions of thy righteous Laws, in Thought, Word, and Deed. We have every Day been doing those Things which thou hast forbidden, and leaving undone the Things which Thou hast commanded; so that when we look back upon our past Lives, and remember that Thou art privy to our most secret Sins, we are afraid of thy Judgments, and ashamed to lift up our Eyes unto Thee.

*But

* Here let him who reads, make a short Pause, that every one may secretly confess the Sins and Failings of that Day.

*But, O Gracious Father, who desirest not the Death of a Sinner, look upon us, we beseech Thee, in thy Son Jesus Christ, and for the Merits of his Sufferings be Thou merciful to our Sins. Make us deeply sensible of the great Evil of them, and work in us a hearty Contrition, and let the Remembrance of them be more grievous and afflicting to us, than of any other evil whatsoever: That we worthily lamenting our Transgressions, and being brought to a Hatred of our Sins, and a hearty Repentance,

pentance, may obtain Forgiveness at thy Hands, who art ever ready to receive humble and penitent Sinners; for the Sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, our only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Prayer for Grace to reform and grow better.

AND lest, thro' our own Frailty, or the Temptations that encompass us, we be drawn again to our former Sins; vouchsafe us, we beseech Thee, the Direction and Assistance of thy Holy Spirit; that as Thou hast put into our Hearts these Desires and Resolutions of Amendment, so by the Help of thy Grace we may

bring

bring the same to good Effect, in a Godly, Righteous, and Sober Life. Reform whatever Thou findest amiss in the Temper and Disposition of our Souls; that no unclean Thoughts, unlawful Designs, or inordinate Desires, may rest there. Purge our Hearts from Envy, Hatred, and Malice, that we may never suffer the Sun to go down upon our Wrath, but may always go to our Rest in Peace, Charity, and Good-will, with a Conscience void of Offence, towards Thee, and towards Men. That so our Hearts being a fit Habitation for thy Holy Spirit, he may continually dwell therein; and

we,

we, whether we wake or sleep, may be under his blessed Protection, and have our whole Spirit, and Soul and Body, preserved pure and blameless unto the Coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The Intercession, general and particular.

WITH these Prayers in Behalf of ourselves, accept, O Lord, as the Testimony of our Love and Charity, our hearty Intercessions for all Mankind. Let the Light of thy Gospel shine upon all Nations; and may as many as have already heard and received it, live as

becomes it. Be more especially gracious to the Church and Nation whereunto we belong. Bless the King, and all who by thy Providence have Authority under him; so rule their Hearts, and strengthen their Hands, that they may neither want Will nor Power to punish Wickedness and Vice, and to maintain thy true Religion among us. Send down thy blessings, temporal and spiritual, upon all our Relations, Friends and Neighbours. Reward all that have done us Good, and pardon all those who have done or wish us Evil, and give them Repentance and better Minds. Be

merciful

merciful to all who are in any Trouble or Affliction of Mind, Body, or Estate; and do Thou, the God of Pity and Compassion, administer to every one Help and Comfort, according to their several Necessities; for his Sake, who went about doing Good to the Souls and Bodies of Men, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The Thanksgiving, general and particular.

TO our Prayers and Intercessions for future Blessings, we add our unfeigned Thanks for all thy Mercies which from Time to Time thou hast vouchsafed

us;

us; for our Being, our Reason, and all other Endowments and Faculties of Soul and Body: For our Health, Friends, Food, and Rayment, and all the other Comforts and Conveniencies of Life. Above all, we adore thy tender Mercy and Compassion to us and all Mankind, in sending thy only Son into the World, to redeem us from Sin and Eternal Death, and in giving us the Knowledge and Sense of our Duty towards Thee. We bless Thee for thy Patience with us, notwithstanding our many and great Provocations; for all the Directions, Assistances, and Comforts of thy Holy Spirit;

for

for thy continual Care and watchful Providence over us, through the whole Course of our Lives; and particularly for the Mercies and Benefits of the past Day: Beseeching Thee to continue these thy Blessings to us, and to give us Grace to shew our Sense of them, and all thy other Mercies, in a sincere Obedience to his Laws, through whose Merits and Intercession we receive them all, thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Prayer for God's Protection the following Night.

IN a particular Manner we beseech Thee to

continue

continue thy Gracious Protection to us this Night. Into thy Hand we commend our Souls and Bodies, our Substance, Dwelling, and all Things that belong to us. Do Thou, our gracious God, who neither slumberest nor sleepest, be pleased to take both us and them this Night into thy especial Care and Protection. Defend us from all Dangers and Mischiefs, and from the Dread and Fear of them; that we may enjoy such quiet and refreshing Sleep as may fit us for the Duties of the following Day. And, Lord, make us ever mindful of that Time when we shall lie down

in

in the Dust; and grant us Grace always to live in such a State, that we may never be afraid to die; but that whether we live, we may live unto Thee; or whether we die, we may die unto Thee, so that living and dying we may be thine, through the Merits and Satisfaction of thy Son Christ Jesus, in whose Name and Words we conclude our imperfect Prayers.

Our Father, which art in Heaven; Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread; and

forgive

forgive us our Trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

MORNING

MORNING PRAYER:

To be used, as there is Occasion, by one Person in Private.

Acknowledgment of God's mercy and Preservation, especially the Night past.

ALMIGHTY and Everlasting God, in whom I live, and move, and have my Being, and whose Mercy is over all thy Works; I thy needy Creature, in a thankful Sense of thy good Providence over me, render Thee my humblest

Praises

Praises for thy Preservation of me, from the Beginning of my Life to this Day. Blessed be thy Holy Name for the continual Protections of thy Hand, by which I have been defended amidst the Changes and Chances of this mortal Life, and kept and delivered from innumerable Dangers, and particularly from the Terrors and evil Accidents of the past Night. To thy watchful Providence I wholly owe it, [*that no Disturbance hath come nigh me or my Dwelling, but that I have enjoy'd quiet and refreshing

* When Disturbances of any Kind shall happen, instead of this, say, [*that notwithstanding my Fear and Danger, I am brought in Safety to the Beginning of this Day.*]

refreshing Sleep, and am brought in Safety to the Beginning of this Day.] For these and all thy other Mercies, my Soul doth bless and magnify thy Glorious Name: humbly beseeching Thee to accept this my Morning Sacrifice of Praise and Thanksgiving, for his Sake, who lay down in the Grave, and rose again for me, thy Son, my only Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Dedication of Soul and Body to God's Service, with a Resolution to the growing daily in Goodness.

AND since it is of thy mercy, O gracious Father, that another Day is added to my Life;

I here

I here dedicate both my Soul and Body to Thee and thy Service, to promote thy Glory and my own Salvation, in a sober, righteous, and godly Life. I renounce the Devil and all his Works, the Vanities of this wicked World, and all the sinful Lusts of the Flesh; desiring Nothing so much as to serve Thee faithfully all the Days of my Life. And I sincerely resolve so to improve the Time which thou shalt be pleased to grant me in this World, that I may every Day become a better Christian, and persevere in Holiness and Righteousness unto the End. In which Resolutions, do

Thou,

Thou, O merciful God, confirm and strengthen me; and especially this Day keep it stedfastly in the Purpose of my Heart to perform them, that as I grow in Age, I may grow in Grace, and in the Knowledge of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For Grace to enable me to perform that Resolution.

BUT, Lord, thou knowest the Weakness and Corruption of my Nature, and the manifold Temptations which I daily meet with; I therefore humbly beseech Thee to have Compassion upon my Infirmities, and to give me the constant Assistance of thy Holy

Spirit;

Spirit; that I may be effectually restrained from Sin, and excited to my Duty. And when thou seest me giving Way to any Temptation, suffer me not to be tempted above that I am able, but stretch out thy helping Hand to save and deliver me. Imprint upon my Heart such a Dread of thy Judgments, and such a Love of thy Goodness towards me, as may make me both afraid and ashamed to offend Thee: And above all, keep up in my Mind a lively Remembrance of that great Day, in which I must give a strict Account of my Thoughts, Words, and Actions, and, according to the

Works

Works done in the Body, be eternally rewarded or punished by Him whom thou hast appointed Judge of Quick and Dead, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Grace to guide and keep me the following Day.

IN particular, that I may then be able to give Account of this Day; grant me Grace to have Thee and thy Laws before my Eyes, that I may walk in it according to thy Will, with Watchfulness and Circumspection. Keep me sober and temperate in my Meat and Drink, and diligent in the Calling and Profession

which

which thy Providence hath appointed me. Grant me Patience under any Affliction thou shalt see fit to lay upon me, and a Mind always contented with my present Condition. Give me Grace to be just and upright in all my Dealings, quiet and peaceable among my Neighbours, full of Compassion towards the Needy and Afflicted, and ever ready to do Good to all Men, according to the Abilities and Opportunities which Thou shalt give me: That so walking faithfully before Thee all my Days, and being found watching whenever my appointed Time shall come, I

may,

may, from a Life of Righteousness, be translated to a Life of Glory, through the Merits and Mediation of Jesus Christ my only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

For God's Blessing upon the Business of the Day.

* AND now I am entring upon the Business of the Station wherein thy Providence hath placed me, I humbly beg thy Blessing this Day upon my honest Designs and Undertakings. Direct me in all my Ways, and prosper

* *On Sunday Morning, instead of this, say,* And now I am going to the Place of thy publick Worship, I beseech Thee, let thy Holy Spirit accompany me, and make me Devout, Serious, and

Attentive. Raise my Mind from the Thoughts of this World, to the Consideration of the next, that I may join fervently in the Prayers and Praises of thy Church, and listen to my Duty with an honest Heart, in order to practise it. And give me Grace to dedicate this Day, as Thou hast appointed me, to thy Service, and the Care of my Soul. Direct me in all my the Works of my Hands:] And as I desire to walk in a constant Sense of thy All-seeing Providence; so let the same good Providence watch over me, and preserve my Going-out, and my Coming-in. Defend me from all Dangers and Adversities, and be graciously pleased to take me, and all Things belonging to me, into thy Fatherly Care and Protection. These

Things

Things, O Lord, and whatever else Thou shalt see necessary or convenient, either for my Soul, my Body, or Estate, I humbly beg of Thee, for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, in whose Name and Words I conclude my imperfect Prayers.

Ways, and guide my Feet into thy Paths.

Our Father, which art in Heaven; Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread; and forgive us our Trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not

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into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

EVENING

EVENING PRAYER:

To be used, as there is Occasion, by one Person in Private.

Confession of Sins, with a Prayer for Contrition and Pardon.

MOST Gracious and Merciful God, who art of purer Eyes than to behold Iniquity, and hast promised Mercy and Forgiveness to all them who confess and forsake their Sins; I come before Thee in an humble Sense of my own Unworthiness, acknowledging

knowledging my manifold Transgressions of thy righteous Laws, in Thought, Word, and Deed. I have every Day been doing those Things which Thou hast forbidden, and leaving undone the Things which Thou hast commanded; so that when I look back upon my past Life, and remember that Thou art privy to my most secret Sins, I am afraid of thy Judgments, and ashamed to lift up my eyes unto Thee.

* Here make a particular Confession of the Sins and Failings of the past Day.

*But, O Gracious Father, who desirest not the Death of a Sinner, look upon me, I beseech Thee, in thy Son Jesus Christ, and for the

the Merits of his Sufferings be Thou merciful to my Sins. Make me deeply sensible of the great Evil of them, and work in me a hearty Contrition, and let the Remembrance of them be more grievous and afflicting to me, than of any other evil whatsoever: That I, worthily lamenting my Transgressions, and being brought to a Hatred of my Sins, and a hearty Repentance, may obtain Forgiveness at thy Hands, who art ever ready to receive humble and penitent Sinners; for the Sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, my only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

AND

Prayer for Grace to reform and grow better.

AND lest, thro' my own Frailty, or the Temptations that encompass me, I be drawn again to my former Sins; vouchsafe me, I beseech Thee, the Direction and Assistance of thy Holy Spirit; that as Thou hast put into my Heart these Desires and Resolutions of Amendment, so by the Help of thy Grace I may bring the same to good Effect, in a Godly, Righteous, and Sober Life. Reform whatever Thou findest amiss in the Temper and Disposition of my Soul; that no unclean Thoughts, unlawful Designs, or inordi-

nate

nate Desires, may rest there. Purge my Heart from Envy, Hatred, and Malice, that I may never suffer the Sun to go down upon my Wrath, but may always go to my Rest in Peace, Charity, and Good-will, with a Conscience void of Offence, towards Thee, and towards Men. That so my Heart being a fit Habitation for thy Holy Spirit, he may continually dwell therein; and I, whether I wake or sleep, may be under his blessed Protection, and have my whole Spirit, and Soul and Body, preserved pure and blameless unto the Coming of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

WITH

The Intercession, general and particular.

WITH these Prayers in Behalf of myself, accept, O Lord, as the Testimony of my Love and Charity, my hearty Intercessions for all Mankind. Let the Light of thy Gospel shine upon all Nations; and may as many as have already heard and received it, live as becomes it. Be more especially gracious to the Church and Nation whereunto I belong. Bless the King, and all who by thy Providence have Authority under him; so rule their Hearts, and strengthen their Hands, that they may neither want Will nor Power

to

to punish Wickedness and Vice, and to maintain thy true Religion among us. Send down thy blessings, temporal and spiritual, upon all my Relations, Friends and Neighbours. Reward all that have done me Good, and pardon all those who have done or wish me Evil, and give them Repentance or better Minds. Be merciful to all who are in any Trouble or Affliction of Mind, Body, or Estate; and do Thou, the God of Pity and Compassion, administer to every one Help and Comfort, according to their several Necessities; for his Sake, who went about doing Good to the Souls and

Bodies

Bodies of Men, thy Son my Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The Thanksgiving, general and particular.

TO my Prayers and Intercessions for future Blessings, I add my unfeigned Thanks for all thy Mercies which from Time to Time thou hast vouchsafed me; for my Being, my Reason, and all other Endowments and Faculties of Soul and Body: For my Health, Friends, Food, and Rayment, and all the other Comforts and Conveniencies of Life. Above all, I adore thy tender Mercy and Compassion to me and all Mankind, in sending thy only

Son

Son into the World, to redeem me from Sin and Eternal Death, and in giving me the Knowledge and Sense of my Duty towards Thee. I bless Thee for thy Patience with me, notwithstanding my many and great Provocations; for all the Directions, Assistances, and Comforts of thy Holy Spirit; for thy continual Care and watchful Providence over me, through the whole Course of my Life; and particularly for the Mercies and Benefits of the past Day: Beseeching Thee to continue these thy Blessings to me, and to give me Grace to shew my Sense of them, and all thy other Mercies, in a sin-

cere

cere Obedience to his Laws, through whose Merits and Intercession I receive them all, thy Son, my only Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Prayer for God's Protection the following Night.

IN a particular Manner I beseech Thee to continue thy Gracious Protection to me this Night. Into thy Hand I commend my Soul and Body, my Substance, Dwelling, and all Things that belong to me. Do Thou, O gracious God, who neither slumberest nor sleepest, be pleased to take both me and them this Night into thy especial Care and Protection

tection. Defend me from all Dangers and Mischiefs, and from the Dread and Fear of them; that I may enjoy such quiet and refreshing Sleep as may fit me for the Duties of the following Day. And, Lord, make me ever mindful of that Time when I shall lie down in the Dust; and grant me Grace always to live in such a State, that I may never be afraid to die; but that whether I live, I may live unto Thee; or whether I die, I may die unto Thee, so that living and dying I may be thine, through the Merits and Satisfaction of thy Son Christ Jesus, in whose Name and

Words

Words I conclude my imperfect Prayers.

Our Father, which art in Heaven; Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread; and forgive us our Trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYERS

FOR

MORNING AND EVENING,

Suited to the Condition of CHILDREN, and to be said by them in Private; especially when they cannot be present at the *Publick* or *Family* Prayers.

MORNING PRAYER.

When you rise out of Bed in the Morning, say,

I laid me down and slept, and rose up again, for the Lord sustained me. *Psal.* iii. 5.

When you have put on your Cloaths, say the following Prayer.

O ALMIGHTY God, who madest and governest all Things in Heaven and Earth, and whose Mercy is over all thy Works; I give Thee humble Thanks for that thou hast deliver'd me from the Perils and Dangers of the past Night, and brought me safely to the Beginning of this Day. Protect me in it, I beseech Thee, by thy good Providence, and give me Grace to be diligent in my Business, and dutiful and obedient to my Parents and Governors.

Preserve

Preserve me from Sickness and Dangers, and all evil Accidents, but especially from Sin and Vice, and from the Snares and Temptations of profane Company and evil Examples. Keep up in me an awful Reverence of Thee, and thy Name, that I may at all Times behave myself in the Holy Offices of Religion with Seriousness and Attention, and carefully abstain from Vanity and Profaneness of all Kinds. Imprint upon my Mind such a Sense and Fear of thy All-seeing Eye, as may keep me from Falshood and Lying, and every evil Way; remembering that Thou beholdest the most secret

Thoughts

Thoughts and Actions of my Heart and Life. That walking always in thy Fear, and being protected by thy good Providence, both in Body and Soul, I may evermore serve and please Thee; and as I grow in Age, may also grow in Grace and Goodness. Grant this, O merciful Father, for the Sake of Thy Son Jesus Christ, my only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYER.

ALMIGHTY God, in whom I live, and move, and have my Being, and

and to whose gracious Providence over me, I owe all the Blessings and Benefits which I enjoy; I give Thee humble Thanks for thy Preservation of me, and for all thy other Mercies towards me, from the Beginning of my Life to this Day; beseeching thee to pardon all the Sins and Failings, by which I have at any time offended Thee, and to give me Grace to avoid them for the Time to come. I thank Thee more especially for the Blessing which thou hast vouchsafed me, of a pious and virtuous Education; and I pray thee to make me sensible of the great Benefit of it, and careful

to

to improve it, in a sober, serious, and regular Life; that so I may lay a sure Foundation for my own Happiness, and be a faithful Servant to Thee, and a Comfort* to my *dear Parents*, whom I beseech thee evermore to bless and reward for all their Care and Love towards me. I thank Thee, in particular for thy Preservation of me throughout the past Day, and beseech thee to continue thy gracious Protection to me this Night, and to give me such quiet and refreshing Sleep, as may fit me for the Duties of the following Day.

* To my dear Father or Mother, if *one* be dead; *or*, To my Relations and Governors, if the Parents be both dead.

All

All which I beg of Thee, for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, my blessed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Our Father, which art in Heaven; Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread; and forgive us our Trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

When

When you lie down in Bed, say,

I will lie me down in Peace, and take my Rest, for it is Thou, Lord, only that makest me dwell in Safety. *Ps.* iv. 9.

PRAYERS

PRAYERS

FOR

MORNING AND EVENING.

Suited to the Condition of SERVANTS, and to be said by them in Private; especially when they cannot be present at the *Publick* or *Family* Prayers.

MORNING PRAYER.

When you rise out of Bed in the Morning, say,

I laid me down and slept, and rose up again, for the Lord sustained me. *Psal.* iii. 5.

When

When you have put on your Cloaths, say the following Prayer.

ALMIGHTY and Everlasting God, in whom I live, and move, and have my Being, and whose Mercy is over all thy Works; I render Thee my humble Thanks for thy Preservation of me from the Beginning of my Life to this Time. In particular, I thank Thee for that Thou hast protected me from the Perils and Dangers of the Night past, and hast given me quiet and comfortable Rest, and brought me safely to the Beginning of this Day. Let the same good

Providence

Providence still watch over me, and preserve my Going-out and my Coming-in; that I may be defended from all Dangers and Mischiefs, and from the Temptations of the World, the Flesh, and the Devil. Give me Grace to behave myself with Sobriety, Diligence, and Honesty, in the Business of my Station, and with Duty and Submission to those whom thou hast set over me; and to desire and endeavour to live in Peace and Love with my Fellow-Servants. Preserve in me a strict Regard to Truth and Sincerity in all my Words and Actions, and let no Fear of Punishment or Dis-

pleasure

pleasure from Men, ever make me transgress my Duty to thee. And to the End I may walk in thy Fear this Day, and all the Days of my Life; keep up in my Mind a due Sense and Reverence of thy All-seeing Eye, and a lively Remembrance of that great Day in which I must give a strict Account of my Thoughts, Words, and Actions, and according to the Works done in my Body, be sentenced to Happiness or Misery, to all Eternity. Grant this, O Father, for the Sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, my blessed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

EVENING

EVENING PRAYER.

MOST gracious God, who by thy wise Providence hast appointed to Mankind their several Stations and Offices in this Life, I acknowledge thy Wisdom and Goodness in this and all thy other Dispensations; desiring in all Things to pay a ready and chearful Submission to thy holy Will. To this End, endue me with such a Spirit of Humility, Patience, and Contentment, as is suitable to the Condition in which thy Providence hath placed me. Bless me with Health of Body, and Comfort of Mind, that I may perform the

the Offices which belong to me with Chearfulness and Resignation; doing my Duty as unto Thee, and not only unto Men, and resting upon thy gracious Promises for a Reward of my Labour and Obedience in this Life. And since, through the Frailty of my Nature, and the manifold Temptations which I daily meet with, I cannot always stand upright; I pray Thee to forgive me all Transgressions of my Duty, whether in Thought, Word, or Deed, and especially forgive me the Sins and Failings of the past Day, and enable me by thy Holy Spirit to avoid them for the Time to come, and to be

ever

ever growing in the Graces and Virtues of the Christian Life, as long as thou shalt be pleased to continue me in this World. I thank Thee for thy constant Care over me, amidst all the Changes of this mortal Life, and in particular for thy Preservation of me throughout the past Day; and I beseech Thee to continue thy gracious Protection to me this Night, that I may enjoy such quiet and refreshing Sleep as may fit me for the Duties of the following Day. All which I beg of Thee, in the Name, and for the Merits of thy Son Jesus Christ, my blessed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Our

Our Father, which art in Heaven; Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread; and forgive us our Trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

When you lie down in Bed, say,

I will lie me down in Peace, and take my Rest, for it is Thou Lord only that makest me dwell in Safety. *Ps.* iv. 9.

A M E N.

December 1857.

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